

# Low-Priced "Alternative" Tractor Roundup

## Indian-Built "Dragon" Tractors

"You get a lot for your money," says Ruch Jennings, U.S. distributor of Dragon tractors built by Hindustan in India.

Imported to the U.S. since 1993, models range from 31 hp (\$9,570) to 80 hp (\$15,186). Unlike many other foreign-produced tractors, Hindustan is not affiliated with a U.S. manufacturer.

**Key Features:** Direct injection diesel engine, live pto with 2-stage clutch, power steering.



Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dragon Tractor Corporation, P.O. Box 6, Trion, Ga. 30753-0006 (ph 706-734-2022; fax 3449).

## 4-Wheel Drive Korean "Kioti" Tractors

"They're less expensive than Japanese-built utility tractors but of the same, or maybe even better quality," say importers of rugged 4-WD Kioti Korean-built tractors, which have been brought into the U.S. since 1985.

Models range from 19 hp (\$9,590) to 30 hp (\$12,330).

**Key Features:** Water-cooled 3-cyl. diesel engine, 4-WD, 8-speed transmission with mechanical shuttle, power steering, wet disk brakes, ROPS. Many other options and attachments available.



Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Lely Corporation, P.O. Box 1060, Wilson, N.C. 27894-6183 (ph 919-291-7050; fax 6183).

## "Tafe" Tractors From India

These tractors were originally built in India for a U.S. tractor manufacturer and parts are interchangeable with those models, but the importer is under legal contract that prohibits it from advertising the name of the company.

"They're of much higher quality than many of the other low-priced imports," says importer Hal Robison, who's been bringing the tractors into the country since 1993.

Models range from 25 hp (\$8,600) to 45 hp (\$11,900).

Upon arrival, the tractors are fitted with Interstate batteries, ROPS, seat belt, and Goodyear tires.

**Key Features:** Direct injection diesel engines, mechanical transmissions with 8 forward and 4 reverse gears, dry dual-type clutch.



Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, U.S. Tafe Distributor, Robison & Grissom Tractor Co., Inc., Hwy 348 West, Rt. 2, Box 36, Guntown, Miss. 38849 (ph 601-869-1028; fax 1030).

## Low-Priced Chinese Import

A California importer sells a 25-hp diesel Chinese "Shennui 254" for \$4,995.

**Key Features:** Eight forward gears, 3-pt. hitch, 25-hp. long stroke, high torque diesel engine.

The company also sells an 8KW Chinese-built diesel generator for \$2,690.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, China Diesel Imports, 15749 Lyons Valley Road, Jamul, Calif. 91935 (ph 619-669-1995).



## Indian-Built "Zebras"

Zebra tractors are built in India but are not affiliated with any U.S. tractor manufacturer. They are imported by the same company that distributes Zetor tractors.

Models range from 25 hp (\$8,570) to 45 hp (\$13,625).

Redesigned in August with European square designed butterfly hood and headlights.

**Key Features:** Water-cooled diesel engine, dual-stage mechanical clutch, live pto.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Zetor Tractor Division, American Jawa, 185 Ex-



press Street, Plainview, N.Y. 11803 (ph 516-938-3210).

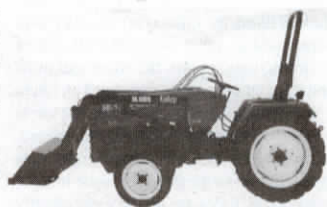
## "Value Added" Chinese Tractors

Hartford Tractor took an inexpensive, "bare bones" Chinese tractor and upgraded it with U.S.-built hydraulics, gauges, air filter, ROPS, 1,000-amp battery, optional power steering unit, oil and filter, and a more stylish hood.

Imported to the U.S. since 1993, models range from 18 hp 2-WD (\$5,500) to 35 hp 4-WD (\$7,450).

**Key Features:** Water-cooled 2- and 3-cyl. diesel engines, clutch disc transmission.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Hart-



ford Tractor, 415 West Main St., Hartford, Mich. 49057 (ph 800-257-5591 or 612-621-2044; fax 6393).

## Mahindra-Built "IH" Tractors From India

"All parts on these tractors are 100 percent interchangeable with parts on comparable IH models on farms all over the U.S. and Canada," says Rip Evans of Alkay Texas, Inc., importer of Mahindras.

Models range from 43 hp (\$9,000) to 50 hp (\$11,000). They've been on the U.S. market since 1990.

Mahindra formerly built tractors for International Harvester but started selling under its own name after Case took over IH.

**Key features:** Direct injection diesel engines, live pto, dual clutch, power steering, 8 forward and 2 reverse-gear transmission.



Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Alkay Texas Inc., Tractor Division, 17723 FM 2920 Tomball, Houston, Texas 77375 (ph 713-351-9686; fax 2656).

## Czech-Built "Zetor" Tractors

Imported from Czechoslovakia since 1983, Zetor is one of the best-established import tractors. It also has the most models, with tractors ranging in size from 40 hp (\$14,235) to 160 hp (\$47,130).

**Key Features:** Both 2- and 4-WD drive models, 3- and 4-cyl. water cooled diesel engines, hydraulic-controlled clutch.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Zetor Tractor Division, American Jawa Ltd., 185 Express Street, Plainview, N.Y. 11803 (ph 516-938-3210).



## Chinese-Built "John Deere" Tractors

This 2850 looks like a Deere but it's really built in China. About 50 percent of the components are imported from Deere & Co. in the U.S. and then assembled in China.

The tractor was recently put on display at a farm show in Australia, where the manufacturer, China Machine Building Corporation, was trying to line up a distributor.

The 84-hp. tractor is fitted with a Chinese-built engine and transmission built to Deere's standards. Sells for right at \$16,000 (U.S.) in Australia. Not available in North America.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup,



Photo courtesy Australian Farm Journal  
Chen Guogang, China Machine Building International Corp., No 2 Building, Xiyuan Hotel, Xijiao Erligou, Beijing, China (ph 831 3388 5279).

## New U.S. Built Small-Farm Tractor

"Great row crop visibility," says the U.S. manufacturer of the new 20 hp Saukville tractor that's patterned after the Allis Chalmers G built in the 1940's and '50's.

**Key features:** Two 3 pt. hitches, 132 in. long, 84 in. wide, hydrostatic transmission, sells for \$13,500.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, The Saukville Tractor Corp., Box 572, Newburg, Wis. 53060 (ph 414 675-2182).

